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164th Infantry News: April 1992

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The 164th INFANTRY News

Vol. 31 No. 1

1992 is our 46th ass'n yr

April 1992

Proclamation

The proclamation reproduced in this issue of the News is a copy of the document to be included as a permanent part of the Memorial and will be hand carried by the group that goes to Guadalcanal in October to commemorate the participation of the 164th Infantry in the Guadalcanal campaign.



1883

1955

1992 Reunion Williston, ND Oct. 9-10-11

This year's reunion will be held in Williston, ND, October 9-10-11. Previous dates are no longer valid due to the unavailability of the scheduled Headquarters Motel, Airport International Inn. An information letter will be sent soon.

All activities are scheduled to be held at the "International Inn". Two motels in the immediate vicinity are alternate places to stay. A number of rooms are being reserved for 164th Infantry Association members. A special room rate will apply.

For more information, call or write Ray Atol, 1511 E. 2nd St., Williston, ND 58801, phone number 701-572-2815.

Motels and addresses are:

Airport International Inn
Box 1800, Hwy. 2 & 85 North
Phone: 701-774-0241

Select Inn
RR 2 Box 136, US Hwy. 2 & 85
Phone: 1-800-641-1000
or 701-572-4242

Travel Host
3801 2nd Ave. West Hwy 85 & 2
Phone: 701-774-0041

164TH INFANTRY
ASSOCIATION
OF THE
UNITED STATES

BOX 1111
BISMARCK
NORTH DAKOTA 58501



1883

1955

WORLD WAR TWO

Guadalcanal

Bougainville

Philippines

Japan

PROCLAMATION

On this 7th Day of August 1992, surviving members of the 164th Infantry Regiment, part of the 1st Marine Division Reinforced in 1942, are present on this most momentous occasion for


THE DEDICATION OF THE GUADALCANAL SOLOMON ISLANDS WAR MEMORIAL

The 164th Infantry Regiment arrived on Guadalcanal on October 13, 1942 and proudly served alongside their Marine comrades until December 1942 when command changed to the Americal Division, their original Division which continued the campaign until the end, February 10, 1943. During some of the bitter fighting involved in the Battle for Henderson Field and the Battle of the Matanikau this regiment was sometimes called "The 164th Marines" due to the fighting spirit and heroism continually displayed by its members in consonance with its Motto, "JE SUIS PRET", "I AM READY". On this very location, the 164th Infantry Regiment was heavily engaged with the enemy in one of the most difficult battles of the Campaign for Guadalcanal. Of the total of 147 of our members that were killed in action from October 13th 1942 to February 10, 1943, 117 died in the first five days of those battles at the place which we now know as Skyline Ridge. We, therefore, officially proclaim this to be

HALLOWED GROUND

For the Association,


RAY ATOL
President


FRANK WEISGERBER
Secretary

ARMY AIR SUPPORT AT EDSON'S BLOODY RIDGE

Early morning on 14 September 1942 three Army shark-toothed P-400's of the 67th Pursuit Squadron bombed and strafed the Japanese forces at Edson's Bloody Ridge. After three passes this devastating attack forced the Japanese to retreat.



Notes From Your Editor

A letter from Vince Powers expresses indignation and dismay towards the Command that failed to have proper security and defense against the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7th, 1941. He expresses the sentiments we all feel. FDR might have said, "We will reprimand them with 'viga' but blame it all on Herbert Hoova." Hopefully the Department of Defense and the Pentagon are better organized today. Your Editor's pen is not mighty enough to tackle the job of shaking up the military establishment. Thanks, Vince, for your letter.

A letter from Steve Jackson, Sales and Marketing for Pacific Trading Cards, Inc. 18424 Highway 99, Lynn, Washington offers World War II trading cards. A collector can get information by writing to him.

Membership update: The Association has a total of 564 annual paid up members and 180 Life Members for a total of 744. Information from Frank Weisgerber, your hard working Secretary Treasurer.

Your Editor doesn't have any more information on the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery. We will try to get more information in the next issue of the News. If you write to the Adjutant General's Office, Attention Chief of Staff, Fraine Barracks, Bismarck, ND 58502 more information will be available.

Correspondence from and to Senator Kent Conrad gives information of a special Resolution introduced by Senator Conrad to be included in the Congressional Record. A letter from your Editor thanking the Senator for his resolution and letter is also included. This letter was on behalf of the members of our Association.

Letters ...

December 1991

Dear Fellow Patriot:

Your past contribution to the Guadalcanal Memorial was most helpful. Because of your interest in the Foundation we would like to present a progress report to you.

Progress of the Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands War Memorial Foundation

Today there is no single memorial on Guadalcanal paying tribute to all of the United States services that participated at great cost in the decisive victory which turned the tide in the Pacific War in WW II. For the United States there exists only a haphazard scattering of modest memorials placed years ago by individual military units; they are rapidly deteriorating.

This coming August 7, 1992, four main memorials will have a solemn and dignified dedication planned by Ambassador to the Solomon Islands, Wm. Farrand, with the Department of Defense (CINCPAC General Claude Kicklighter.

American and Allied Naval vessels will be present. A high ranking American official will make the American memorial presentation in the morning. Ambassador Farrand's ceremonial program will provide an opportunity to reforge the bonds and sense of purpose felt half a century ago between the U.S. Veterans and our Allies.

In the afternoon, the Allied memorial containing the Vouza Statue will be dedicated. This coming August 7, 1992, the memorials will officially become a reality.

At the Skyline Ridge memorial the visitor is welcomed by a beautiful granite engraved memorial. The following is the Welcome Wall to the Skyline Drive Memorial. In addition there will be four directional walls at Skyline drive.

"WELCOME TO THE AMERICAN GUADALCANAL MEMORIAL"

THIS MONUMENT IS A LASTING TRIBUTE HONORING THOSE AMERICAN AND THEIR ALLIES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN FROM 7 AUGUST 1942 TO 9 FEBRUARY 1943. IT PAYS SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THOSE SOLDIERS, SAILORS, MARINES, AND AIRMEN WHO FOUGHT AND DIED IN THE CAMPAIGN THAT LED TO THE LIBERATION OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS. THIS REMEMBRANCE WAS ERECTED THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF THE GUADALCANAL-SOLOMON ISLANDS WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION U.S.A. AND THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION. MAY THIS MEMORIAL ENDURE THE RAVAGES OF TIME UNTIL THE WIND, RAIN, AND TROPICAL STORMS WEAR AWAY ITS FACE BUT NEVER ITS MEMORIES."

At Skyline Ridge overlooking the Matanikau River. the American Battle Monuments Commission will build a large 24-foot marble obelisk. (Similar to the one on Normandy Beach, France). In addition, four directional walls will point out the various battlefields, wall one to Savo Island, wall two across Iron Bottom Bay toward Tulagi. Wall three points out Red Beach, Henderson Air Field, the Ilu River, Edson's Bloody Ridge and the battle for Henderson Field at Fighter Strip-One. The

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Subscription price of \$6.00 per year is included in the membership fee. Second class postage is paid at Bismarck, ND post office zip code 58501-9996.

1992 Association Officers are:
President.....Ray Atol, Williston, ND
Vice President Ben Glatt, Bismarck, ND
Sec./Treas. Frank Weisgerber, Bismarck, ND
Asst. Sec./Treas. Don Robinson, Bismarck, ND
Editor Bill Tillotson Bismarck, ND
164th Infantry News Bismarck, ND
POSTMASTER: Address changes should be sent to 164th Infantry Association, PO Box 1111, Bismarck, ND 58502.

New Members Since 1 June 91

Vic Athias Mill Valley, CA
Rowland Bemis Fargo, ND
Wm. Beuge Sun City, AZ
Lloyd Bird Devils Lake, ND
John Bootler Santa Monica, CA
Len (Corky) Cortez San Jose, CA
Bob Cruse Devils Lake, ND
Ray Eisenzimmer Devils Lake, ND
Don French Mt. Iron, MN
Pasquale Grande Johnston, RI
Jim Hanson Puyallup, WA
Henry Hebert Chauvin, LA
Clarence Hedstrom Belfair, WA
Don Hoppe Santa Rosa, CA

Bernard Krisko Belle Vernon, PA
Vern Lang Moorhead, MN
George Morris West Fargo, ND
John Nyland Devils Lake, ND
Frank Paternoster Tucson, AZ
Wendy Reiger Devils Lake, ND
Ray Robinson Blue Hill, ME
Jack Ross Red Wing, MN
Eddie Senger Devils Lake, ND
Joel Togstad Devils Lake, ND
Maynard Tollefson Milton, ND
Mansel Watne West Fargo, ND
Bill Zettler North Glenn, CO

fourth wall points out Mount Austen and Hill 43 where the Americal and 25th Infantry Division fought.

A large bronze casted map of Guadalcanal, drawn by Don Moss, and surrounding areas will help orient the battle sites. This map will be at Skyline Ridge between Wall Two and Three.

Across the Guadalcanal battlefield there will be several peripheral obelisks with attached plaques to describe the various battles and events during the Guadalcanal Campaign. These include Edson's Bloody Ridge at Fighter One, the Ilu River, Gen. Vandegrift's Headquarters near the Japanese "Pagoda", Mount Austen Battle, Hill 43, Wright Road, and the End of the Struggle near Cape Esperance.

At Henderson International Airfield Terminal, there will be a hero's wall containing plaques honoring the Medal of Honor and Victoria Cross Awardees not only for Guadalcanal but for the Central Solomon Island Campaign up through Bougainville Island. On a special plaque William Manchester's quote will join Lord Byron and Adm. Nimitz to honor our heroes.

All air units that fought the Japanese at Guadalcanal in the Central Solomons and at Bougainville will be listed on a plaque.

Another plaque will list all American and Allied Naval ships sunk or damaged during the Guadalcanal and Solomon Island Campaign.

Also, there will be a listing of all the ground troops which participated in the liberation of Guadalcanal, the Central Solomons, and Bougainville.

We consider it important to include the host government, the Solomon Islands. Therefore, the role of the Solomon Islanders' Constabulary, which worked with the Australian Coast watchers in supporting U.S. forces, is also being memorialized. The Allied Memorial will be built around an eight foot bronze statue of Sir Jacob Vouza. With the use of private funds, the Allied Memorial (a statue of Sergeant Sir Jacob Vouza, the heroic scout for the Marines and the Army) was sculpted and casted in Australia through W. F. Martin Clemens by John Dowie, Australia's foremost sculptor. In July of 1990 the statue was transported to Honiara, Guadalcanal, the capitol of Vouza's Solomon Islands by the Australian ship H.M.A.S. Brunei.

This chosen site is in front of the Island's Central Police Station Headquarters. W. F. Martin Clemens, Australian Coast Watcher on Guadalcanal during WW II and Air Vice Marshal Ian Morrison of New Zealand have led the main efforts to erect the Allied Memorial.

The Allies in the South Pacific area have been very much involved in the project, mainly the planning and fund rais-

Guadalcanal Trip

Changes have been made for the Guadalcanal trip. Some of the details are still indefinite. The trip probably will be made in a Boeing 737 furnished by the Colorado Air National Guard. There will be spaces for 20 Association members. As we have received 35 names, some selection will have to be made. Unless a fairer method is suggested, names will be selected by draw. Those who make the trip must be Guadalcanal veterans of the 164th Infantry and Association members in good standing. Boarding location will be Fargo and Bismarck, ND, with a possible third location depending on the route. A one day stay at Hawaii with a trip to the Veteran's Memorial is planned. Departure will be on or about October 1. Anyone who has decided that they do not want or cannot make the trip, please notify Frank Weisgerber or your editor so that another person may go. More details will be furnished when available. Individuals will pay for their meals and hotel costs. Transportation will be furnished by the government.

ing to pay for it. Dedication ceremonies for the U.S. memorial are planned for August 7, 1992; the 50th anniversary of the Marine's landing. World War II Victory Medals will be awarded our Solomon Island comrades by General Raymond G. Davis, U.S. Marine Corps. The Australian, New Zealand, Tonga, and Fijian officials are participating. The Solomon Islands Government is a member of the Commonwealth, so appropriate United Kingdom representation would be called for.

The Guadalcanal Memorial has been a private effort, which spontaneously developed from the concerns of a group of World War II Pacific Veterans. The battle for Guadalcanal and the Solomon Islands through Bougainville deserves full and appropriate recognition for what it was — the turning of the war in the South Pacific during World War II.

The Foundation has collected funds for a living memorial entitled the Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands Memorial scholarship. The endowed principal funds will be invested in secured U.S. Bonds and held in a trust bank. The interest generated from the endowed funds will be used to support a living memorial scholarship awarded to a bright young Solomon Islander scholar to attend a university or college in Australia, New Zealand, or the East-West University of Hawaii. The individual should study world government, political science, business, and related subjects.

The awardee will be chosen by the Solomon Island Minister of Education, the US Embassy Attache at Guadalcanal, and the President of the Selwyn College located at Guadalcanal.

The annual awardee will be provided a stipend generated by the endowment. Each reward should continue on for four years.

The living memorial scholarship will be entitled the Sir Jacob Vouza Guadalcanal Memorial Scholarship. Sir Jacob was a freedom fighter who heroically fought with the Marine Raiders and the Army at Guadalcanal. He was awarded the Silver Star by the U.S. Marine Corps as

well as the Legion of Merit. General. A. A. Vandegrift made him an honorary Sergeant Major. Later the British awarded him the George Medal. When the Solomon Islands received their independence Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain knighted him.

Two years later a second memorial scholarship will start with a similar selection process for a period of four years. This will be known as the Martin Clemens Guadalcanal Memorial Scholarship.

Before the Solomon Islands were invaded, Martin was in the British Government Service. When the Japanese invaded the Solomon Islands Martin organized a group of Solomon Island scouts and developed a coastwatcher organization. It was Martin who sent back the message indicating the Japanese Air Field was almost completed and the time was right for our invasion.

Our Foundation continues to work closely with the American Battle Monuments Commission (Col. Fred Badger), the State Department mainly Ambassador Wm. Farrand, CINCPAC, Department of Defense General Claude Kicklighter, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Ed Derwinski.

During the Christmas season as you reflect back on Christmas' past remember those of 1941 to 1945 and remember our fellow warriors who didn't make it home.

In the spirit of Christmas and battle comradeship, could you make an additional contribution, small or large, to provide the necessary funds to complete this beautiful and fitting memorial?

Please send your contribution to:
Guadalcanal-Solomon Islands War
Memorial Foundation

Mr. Joseph Micek, AUS Treasurer
935 Frank Parkway
Norridge, IL 51555

May your Christmas be filled with health, joy, and happiness.

God Bless You and each one of us!

Sincerely yours,
Robert C. Muehrcke, M.D.
F.A.C.
Chairman

April 3, 1992

William Tillotson
618 Thayer Av W
Bismarck ND 58501

Dear William:

I am writing to call your attention to a resolution, S. J. Res. 248, that I introduced in the Senate on February 3, 1992, to honor more than 60,000 American servicemen, including the 164th Army Infantry Regiment of the North Dakota National Guard, who participated in the campaign to recapture Guadalcanal between August 7, 1942, and February 9, 1943.

Senate Joint Resolution 248 would pay tribute to all veterans of this campaign by designating August 7, 1992, as "Battle of Guadalcanal Remembrance Day".

As you know, the landings on Guadalcanal Island on August 7, 1942, marked the first American offensive of the Pacific Islands after the fall of Corregidor in the Philippines—action that was absolutely vital in the Allied effort to force a Japanese retreat from the islands in the Pacific.

The campaign to recapture Guadalcanal resulted in some of the most gruesome fighting during World War II. The fighting on Bloody Ridge, around Henderson Field and during the naval battle of Guadalcanal portrayed a clear picture of the heroism and supreme sacrifices made by many American servicemen including members of the 164th Infantry Regiment throughout the Guadalcanal campaign. During the six-month campaign, more than 4,343 Army, Navy and Marine Corps servicemen, including 147 North Dakotans, were killed in action on Guadalcanal.

As Americans commemorate significant national events of World War II between 1941-1945, and as we pause to remember the heroism and sacrifices of many individuals who served their country during this period, it is proper and most fitting that we honor those American servicemen who participated in one of the most significant and costliest military actions of World War II—the landing and campaign to recapture Guadalcanal Island between August, 1942 and February, 1943.

I am deeply honored to be able to recognize the heroism and sacrifices of members of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps who served in the Guadalcanal campaign. I am especially privileged to recognize the members of the 164th Infantry Regiment of the North Dakota National Guard who served with extraordinary distinction and heroism throughout the Guadalcanal campaign.

I am enclosing a copy of my remarks in the Senate regarding this commemorative resolution, along with the diary of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Baglien during his tour of duty as part of the 164th Army Infantry Regiment on Guadalcanal from October 7, 1942, through February 23, 1943. I am also very pleased that 35 of my Senate colleagues have already joined as cosponsors of S. J. Res 248.

Please let me know if you would like to have additional copies of Senate Joint Resolution 248, or the diary of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Baglien.

Sincerely,
KENT CONRAD
United States Senator

BATTLE OF GUADALCANAL

****Mr. CONRAD.** Mr. President, in the coming months, the United States, as part of the 50th anniversary of World War II, and the effort by the Department of Defense to commemorate events of national significance between 1941-45, will pause to honor and remember the heroism and sacrifices of the more than 60,000 Marines, Army, and Naval servicemen who fought major battles on land and sea to defeat the Japanese in the Solomon Islands on Guadalcanal.

August 7, 1992, the U.S. Marine Corps, at the site of the Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington, DC, will pay tribute to the 5th Marine Regiment and 1st Marine Regiment, the first American servicemen to make successful landings on Guadalcanal. Similar ceremonies to commemorate the successful campaign in the Solomon Islands will be held on August 7 on Guadalcanal Island. During the month of August, in Devils Lake, ND, members of the North Dakota National Guard, including survivors of the Army 164th Infantry Regiment of the Americal Division, the first Army units to land on Guadalcanal on October 13, 1942, will gather at Camp Gilbert C. Grafton, ND, National Guard Training Center, to honor and pay respect to the members of the North Dakota National Guard who participated in, and gave their lives during the grueling 6-month Guadalcanal campaign.

The landings on Guadalcanal Island on August 7, 1942, marked the first American offensive of the Pacific War after the fall of Corregidor in the Philippines, action that was absolutely vital in the Allied effort to force a Japanese retreat from the islands in the Pacific. The campaign to recapture Guadalcanal between August 7, 1942, and February 9, 1943, resulted in some of the bloodiest and most gruesome fighting during World War II. The fighting on Bloody Ridge, around Henderson Field and during the naval battle of Guadalcanal between November 12-15, 1942, portrayed a clear picture of the heroism and supreme sacrifices made by many American servicemen including members of the 164th Infantry Regiment, throughout the Guadalcanal campaign. During the 6-month campaign beginning August 7, there were more than 9,400 casualties among Army, Navy, and Marine forces on Guadalcanal, including 4,343 killed in action. Among the North Dakota National Guardsmen serving with the 164th Infantry Regiment on Guadalcanal, 147 North Dakotans were killed in action, 309 were wounded, and 133 were listed as non-battle-related casualties between October 13, 1942, and the end of Japanese resistance on the island on February 9, 1943.

Mr. President, as Americans pause to remember the heroism and sacrifices of many individuals who served their country between 1941-45, it is proper and most fitting that we take time to honor those Army, Navy, and Marine servicemen who participated in one of the most significant and costliest military actions of World War II in the Pacific — the landing, and campaign to recapture Guadalcanal between August 7, 1942 and February 9, 1943. I am deeply honored to be able to recognize the heroism and sacrifices of the members of Army, Navy, and Marines who served in the Guadalcanal campaign in 1942. I am especially privileged to recognize the members of the 164th Infantry

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Regiment of the North Dakota National Guard who served their country with extraordinary distinction and heroism throughout the Guadalcanal campaign.

In recognition of this distinction, and the landing on Guadalcanal which represents a most significant turning point in World War II in the Pacific, I am today introducing a resolution in the Senate to designate August 7, 1992, as Battle of Guadalcanal Remembrance Day. I ask unanimous consent that the text of this joint resolution be printed in the Record at the conclusion of my remarks. I ask unanimous consent that a diary representing an account of the 164th Infantry Regiment of the North Dakota National Guard, a Guadalcanal from October 13, 1942, through February 23, 1943, be printed in the Record following the resolution, and at the conclusion of my remarks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

Battle of Guadalcanal
Remembrance Day, Designation
S. J. Res. 248

Whereas the Allied forces military campaign in the Solomon Islands of the South Pacific was the first American offensive action of World War II in the Pacific;

Whereas the focus of that campaign was the island of Guadalcanal; Whereas the American military invasion of Guadalcanal began on August 7, 1942, with the amphibious landing of Major General Alexander A. Vandegrift's 1st Marine Division;

Whereas, on October 13, 1942, the commitment of United States Army ground forces to the Battle of Guadalcanal began with the landing of the 164th Infantry Regiment of the Americal Division, a unit of the North Dakota Army National Guard, making that Army unit the first to engage in offensive combat action in the Pacific theater during World War II;

Whereas throughout the campaign the United States Navy, particularly the South Pacific Naval Task Force under the command of Vice Admiral William F. Halsey which was the principal naval force during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal in November of 1942, provided the naval support that was critical to the victory of American forces on Guadalcanal;

Whereas during the 6 month campaign on Guadalcanal there were over 9,000 Army, Marine, and Navy casualties;

Whereas on August 7, 1992, the United States Marine Corps will conduct a ceremony at the Iwo Jima Memorial in Washington, D.C., to commemorate the landing of Marines on Guadalcanal; and

Whereas, as part of its commemoration of the 50th anniversary of World War II, the Department of Defense will recognize the contributions made by all American military personnel during the operations on Guadalcanal: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That August 7, 1992, is designated as "Battle of Guadalcanal Remembrance Day". The President of the United States is authorized and requested to call upon the people of the United States to celebrate the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

April 13, 1992

The Honorable Kent Conrad
United States Senate
Washington, DC, 20510-3403

Dear Senator Conrad:

Thank you for your letter and especially for the introduction of your resolution into the Congressional Record. Mayor George Christensen sent me a copy of the resolution several weeks ago. I have been saving this copy to print in our Association Newspaper "The 164th Infantry News". George and I served together on Guadalcanal with the 164th as newly Commissioned Second Lieutenants.

Our members will be honored and grateful that Congress has acknowledged their service and paid tribute to those who sacrificed their lives. The 164th Infantry Association has about 700 members. We meet annually to renew old friendships to share memories and to honor those who are no longer with us.

I will mail you a copy of the "News" when published and also place your name on our mailing list. Thank you again for this great honor. On behalf of the Association and myself, I extend best wishes to you and Mrs Conrad in any future endeavor.

Sincerely yours,
William Tillotson
Editor, 164th Inf. News
618 West Thayer
Bismarck, ND 58501

Herb Mack

Frank Weisgerber and I and many of his friends from the 164th Inf. Assoc. and the North Dakota National Guard attended the funeral for Herb Mack who died April 11th. Herb was a close friend and Association Secretary-Treasurer for many years. Herb first enlisted in the 164th Infantry, Company K at Dickinson, ND, in 1936 at the age of 16. He served with the Regiment through the Guadalcanal and Bougainville Campaigns. Herb was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the North Dakota National Guard in 1948 and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1976. He served as Secretary-Treasurer for many years and was President for a term. He enjoyed golfing and fishing. Herb was a true and loyal friend and we shall miss him. Herb is survived by his wife, Irene, 209 East Owens Ave., Bismarck, ND 58501; one son, Kevin; one daughter, Sharon Kleeman; and one granddaughter. Also, one brother, Donald.

Last Roll Call

Mrs. Harold Barker, Bremerton, WAJan. 6, 1992
Clayton Brown, Couer D'Alene, IDFeb. 19, 1992
Edwin G. Simenson, Long Grove, ILApr. 7, 1991
Lloyd A. Sweeney, Milwaukee, WIJan. 6, 1992
Teddy J. Thompson, Portland, ORDec. 20, 1991
LeRoy Wahowske, Grand Forks, NDFeb. 22, 1992
Bernard Gibson, Medford, ORApr. 1, 1992
Caroll Ball, Providence, KYDec. 1991
Herbert J. Mack, Bismarck, NDApr. 11, 1992

Letters ...

Feb. 20, 1992

Dear Sir:

You are planning a Guadalcanal trip on a military aircraft Oct. 1-15. Now, everyone will not be able to go. I understand only twenty.

Now, do you plan another tour at that time (Oct.)? I would like to plan on a trip.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
George Timock
164th Inf. Co. I
313 Elmrest St.
Cadillac, MI 49601
616-775-9878

27 March 1992

Dear Frank:

Thanks very much for approving the "Proclamation" and forwarding to Ray for his approval as well. I think this will be a very moving and worthwhile experience for all concerned when I read it and present it to the custodian of the Memorial for their records. There should be a large crowd and it is scheduled to be at the 0900 formal Memorial Ceremony. Marine Band, VIPs and other dignitaries and our representatives also will be present.

I am enclosing an invoice from American Speedy Printing Centers in the amount of \$25.45, which I paid, and am adding \$3.00 for postage for mailings of copies I have made to Bob Reynolds, Secretary of the Memorial Foundation, Bob Muehrcke, Chairman of the Foundation, Mark Durley,

who suggested the idea and Harry Wiens, one of our up and coming 164 Historians. Since you indicated that reimbursement would be possible, I would appreciate a check for \$28.45.

I have retained a couple of copies for myself and have two for the ceremony on the 7th of August and am enclosing the rest for you and the Board's desires for their distribution.

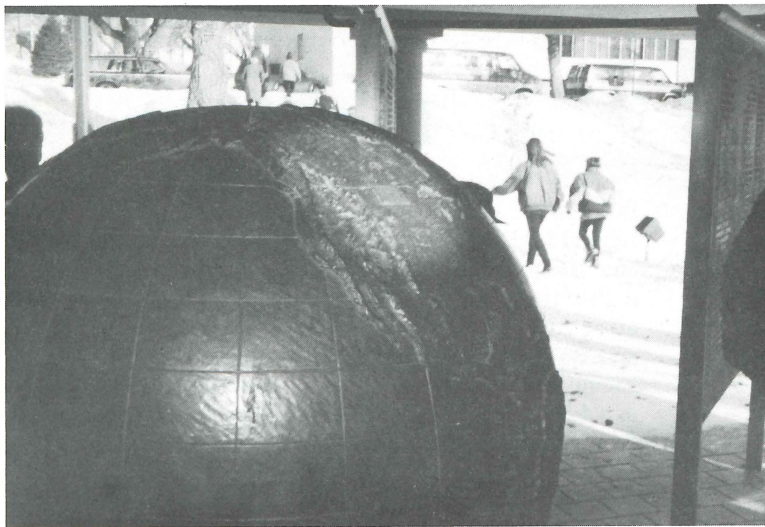
Again, thanks very much for your interest and cooperation and I know that this will add a lot to the Memorial Dedication ceremonies.

Sincerely,
Fred Flo
BGen(Ret) CaARNG
23722 Villena
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

* * * * *

Veteran's Day

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the month (Veteran's Day) when the sun shines through an aperture in the roof of the Veteran's Memorial on the Capitol Grounds in Bismarck, it illuminates North Dakota on a World Globe. Pictures were taken by Ray Patton. The other picture shows a portion of the honor guard at the Veteran's Day Cemetery.



March 26, 1992

Dear Bill,

This is such a coincidence that I must write you.

This winter I visited my son in Travelers Rest, South Carolina. My grandson and I both needed hair cuts and so I went with him to his barber. Barber talk led to the fact that I was from North Dakota. The barber in the #1 chair, probably the owner, immediately took interest and said, "I have to go to ND some time and look up some wing buddies. In fact, the whole damn bunch was from ND, and I joined them in the Fiji Islands." I said, "You must have been in the 164th Infantry." He said, "Yes, G Company; but how the hell would you know that?" I said I was in "A" Co., so we had heard about you guys in "G" Co.

I am sending a couple of back issues of the magazine and a copy of this letter to him in hopes that he will join us and come to our reunions.

If you can publish this, hopefully it will smoke out some the "G" Company bunch and they will write to him:

Alfred H. Edwards
3 Hart St.

Travelers Rest, SC 29690

He knew nothing of our organization, and is real interested. There must be some of you "G" Co. guys that remember him. How about getting off your duffs and write to the guy.

Sincerely,
Ray Patton
151 Redstone Drive
Bismarck, ND

January 4, 1992

Dear Bill,

The 164th News had a dividend for me. Captain Walker wrote me a most welcomed informative letter. He included a couple of snapshots. I had not seen nor heard of him for forty-six or seven years.

The "ying" and "yang" of life seems to have weathered well with him. Young officers never know how their leadership will affect the men they led. It's reflected in the perception of how they respond to the civilian community to which they return. None of us will ever be able to put a yardstick along the walkways of our lives. Only we, the ones that returned, know if we are fulfilling our responsibilities of life.

In all our hearts beat the drum that will never set the cadence again for those that did not return. Our happiness, triumphs, pain, successes, and our setbacks is in all reality the mirror reflecting their lives, had they lived them out, such as we have. In truth, the men we left overseas in the fields of honor are us. Each time we toast them in remembrance we have answered the roll call of life for them.

I hope to make the 164th reunion this year. Will this check cover the 1992 publication and mailing cost? If not, let me know. Thanks for bringing about more pleasant memories of the 164th.

Sincerely,
Don E. Hoppe

Jan. 13, 1992

Dear Bill,

I was sorry to read about the passing of Alvin Paulsen. If I remember correctly he was a Platoon Sergeant when I joined F Co. on Fiji in Nov. of 1943. He later became 1st Sgt. on Bougainville replacing Sgt. Wise who was one of the first of the Guardsmen to be rotated. He had a cousin named Shelley who was killed in an ambush on Hill 1111 on Bougainville.

Can someone verify this? I remember him as being a very mild mannered fellow and a great leader.

I served in the 3rd Platoon F Co. all the way through Leyte, Cebu, Negros and on to Japan.

Is it possible to obtain a roster of all the 164th Assn. membership?

Sincerely,
Vincent A. Ferrigno
761 Woodstock Lane
Los Altos, CA 94022

P.S. Enclosed please find check for membership dues for current year.

03-26-92

Dear Bill:

I am writing to let you know that Carroll Ball of Providence, Kentucky, passed away in December 1991. I don't know the exact day. Carroll joined Company "G" 164th Inf. in 1941 at Ford Ord, CA, and remained with Co. "G" throughout the Pacific Campaign. He left Co. "G" to return to the U.S. from Leyte in late July 1945, after the unit returned there from Negros Island to begin training for the landing on Japan.

Carroll was one of the last nine enlisted men of Co. "G" that left Fort Ord in 1941 to return to the U.S. at that time.

Carroll was an outstanding soldier and a very close friend. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Sincerely,
Peter Grant
P.O. Box 223
Strum, WI 54770

Jan. 13, 1992

Dear Bill

Thanks for all the work and dedication you and others continue to put into the Assn.

You may recall I was HQ Co. 164 3rd Bn. when Guard went to Rucker back in the 50's. The main leadership was the veteran officers and men from WW II, back again to serve and lead. As one of the kids I really appreciated and respected this core of experience and leadership. I want you to know it was a honor to have had the experience to serve and follow.

Best wishes to each and every 164th member for a great new year.

Sincerely,
Bob Alin
867 Oak Street
West Fargo, ND 58078
(701) 282-0483

Dear Bill,

Just a note to let you know that we lost one more. LeRoy Wahowske was in "Co B" of the 164th. He was with me in Fargo last year for the 50th year when we marched as we did 50 years ago. He died Friday, Feb. 26, 1991.

Thank you,
Ray Conlon
Box 252
Minto, ND 58261

Jan. 15, 1992

To whom it may concern:

I, Raymond D. Conlon 20,710,801 joined Co. "B" of the 164th Inf. in Fargo, ND the fall of 1940. In Feb. of 1941 we were called into federal service and left Fargo, ND Feb. 26, 1941 and went to Camp Claiborne, LA. We left LA and went to the Cow Palace in San Francisco, CA and then to Boise, ID and then to Fort Ord, CA, and then to Melbourne, Australia, and from there to New Caledonia and left there and landed on Guadalcanal Oct. 13, 1942.

My twin brother, Richard, was shot down in the South Pacific and another brother, also a twin, David, was killed in the Batton death march in the Philippines and my brother Jack was at Pearl Harbor and there he joined the Army Air Corp. He had 36 months in the service and also 36 months over seas duty. My sister Elizabeth A. Conlon joined the women Marines in 1943. There was 4 Conlon boys and one Conlon girl in the service in WWII.

I sure hope my name is one of the twenty to go visit the ceremony at the American memorial on Guadalcanal.

Thank you,
Raymond P. Conlon
Box 252
Minto, ND 58261
701-248-3680

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or ANNUAL RENEWAL
164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES**

Name _____

Unit Served With and Dates _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code No. _____

**DUES FOR 1992 — \$10.00 which includes \$6.00 subscription to 164th News.
Send to Secretary 164th Infantry, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502.**

December 4, 1991

Dear Sir:

I received the 164th Infantry News and looked for some information about how us GI's can gain admission to the ND Veteran's Cemetery at Ft. Lincoln.

Would it be possible to:

1. Explain what paperwork is necessary for one's spouse to fill out for a 164 Inf. Vet to be buried with his buddies at Ft. Lincoln.

2. The cost to be buried at Ft. Lincoln?

3. What process is needed to be done to get the 164 Vet buried.

4. One's spouse is also eligible to be buried at Ft. Lincoln?

All of us vets are now in our 70's and one never knows when our last call will be made; and still having a strong feeling of being buried beside the buddies he fought side by side with on Guadalcanal seems to be prevalent.

Maybe something in the 164th Infantry News would explain it all.

Sincerely,
Vince Powers
Co. "B"
147 Sweathouse Road
Victor, MT 59875

Reunion 1991
Left to right:
Ken Schauss,
Eugene Miller,
Ray Patton,
Gil Shirley.



1991 Reunion Meeting
Two happy warriors in the right front row are John Korsmo and Wally Johnson on the far left. Harry Dolyniak has a more serious demeanor.

"I" Company Reunion

Wahpeton will be host city for the Company "I" Reunion again this year. The Reunion will be held the third week in June. Those desiring to attend call or write Ira Keeney, 521 North 2nd Street, Wahpeton, ND 58075.

Unbelievable!

The enemy clung stubbornly to the west bank of the Matanikau River at Skyline Ridge. Four separate battles were fought for this awful river. The most memorable fight was over a log crossing called the "Jap Bridge." Major Kenneth Bailey was killed there, and Colonel Sam Griffith was wounded in the shoulder by a Jap marksman. (As he staggered and fell, Griffith, ever the professional, shouted, "Good shot.")

William Manchester
Author: Goodbye Darkness

The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111
BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

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